

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 05535 280957Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05
EPG-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /081 W
-----290235Z 111463 /61

R 270730Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1927
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
(4/AMCONSUL KARACHI 8387
AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 5535

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, PK, IR
SUBJECT: VISIT OF IRANIAN ECONOMIC MISSION

1. A HIGH-POWERED IRANIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEFT
PAKISTAN MAY 19 AFTER A THREE DAY SESSION OF THE PAKISTAN-
IRANIAN JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC COOP-
ERATION. THE IRANIAN DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS MINISTER ANSARY; PAKISTAN'S TEAM WAS HEADED BY FOREIGN
MINISTER PIRZADA.

2. IRAN AND PAKISTAN ENDED THE MEETING BY SIGNING A
DETAILED PROTOCOL DESCRIBING THE TALKS. WE UNDERSTAND FROM
IRANIAN DCM BAHRAMBEIGUI THAT THE PROTOCOL WAS A FAIRLY
COMPLETE ACCOUNT OF WHAT TRANSPIRED. IT SAID THAT THE
TWO SIDES HAD JOINTLY REVIEWED A LONG LIST OF PROCEDURES
FOR WHICH IRAN WAS PROVIDING FINANCING. IN ADDITION, PAK-
ISTAN HAD ASKED IRAN TO CONSIDER A NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS,
NOTABLY RAILROAD AND RADIO RELAY PROJECTS IN BALUCHISTAN.
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ONE OF THE MORE INTERESTING NEW PROPOSALS WAS A PAKISTANI
REQUEST FOR COOPERATION WITH IRAN IN THE APPLICATION OF
REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES. PAKISTAN AND IRAN AGREED IN
PRINCIPLE TO A MEETING OF THE EXPERTS IN THREE MONTHS TO
WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF THIS COOPERATION. PAKISTAN ALSO
ASKED FOR A LONG TERM RICE EXPORT AGREEMENT WITH IRAN.

3. THE IRANIAN DCM, IN DISCUSSING THE VISIT, STRESSED THAT IT WAS PRIMARILY AN OCCASION FOR TAKING STOCK OF PAKISTANI ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND ITS USE OF IRANIAN AID. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE DELEGATION HAD EXPRESSED THE SHAH'S HOPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL RESOLUTION OF THE POLITICAL CRISIS. OUR IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE IRANIANS HAD NOT PINNED THEIR HOPES FOR A RESOLUTION EXCLUSIVELY ON BHUTTO'S CONTINUED LEADERSHIP.

4. THE IRANIAN DCM SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW THERE HAD BEEN NO DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONAL CASH LOANS TO PAKISTAN. HOWEVER, THE PAKISTAN SIDE HAD EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN THAT THE LONG PLANNED \$300 MILLION COMMERCIAL LOAN GUARANTEED BY IRAN BE EXPEDITED. WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE PAKISTANI SIDE HAD DISCUSSED DEBT RESCHEDULING, THE IRANIAN DCM SAID THE SUBJECT HAD NOT COME UP BECAUSE "THERE WAS NO NEED TO BRING IT UP," SINCE THE GRACE PERIOD ON THE IRANIAN LOANS RUNS FOR ANOTHER YEAR. HE THEN ADDED "I HOPE THAT THEY WILL NOT BRING IT UP."

5. EXTENSIVE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNTS OF PROTOCOL BEING POUCHES NEA/PAB AND EMBASSY TEHRAN.
CONSTABLE

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